

Agency: Department of Natural Resources**Project Title:**

Settlers Cove State Park Parking Lot Expansion

State Funding Requested: \$ 50,000
One-Time Need**House District: 1 - A****Brief Project Description:**

Funding for parking lot expansion to safely accommodate increased visitors and avoid roadside parking at Settlers Cove State Park.

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$50,000**Funding Secured*Amount FY*Other Pending Requests*Amount FY*Anticipated Future Need*Amount FY*

There is no other funding needed

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

Item is \$50,000 to expand the parking lot at Settlers Cove State Park in Ketchikan. The park is an extremely popular recreation site for residents and visitors. The average number of visitors far exceeds the park's current capacity of 30 vehicles. As a result users park along the roadside up to a quarter of a mile from the park; posing significant safety risks. Funding would expand the parking lot to safely accommodate increased visitors and avoid roadside parking for families and residents.

Project Timeline:

FY09

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Alaska State Parks or Designee

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: Michael Eberhardt
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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No



THE COMMUNITY OF KETCHIKAN



Infrastructure and Improvements at Settlers Cove for Health & Safety

Project Summary and Overview: This project has 3 components within it; to replace outhouses, increase day use parking areas, and repair and upgrade the park road and facilities. The total funding assistance requested in this project group is \$245,000 for Ketchikan District-Alaska State Parks. Settlers Cove is an extremely popular park that not only provides for camping, but has tremendous day use activities that include sunbathing, swimming, kayaking, picnicking, berry picking, shore-fishing, wildlife viewing, and access to 6 miles of trail hiking, etc. Settlers Cove is a major attraction for the community and visitors. Numerous community events are held annually at this park. There are two small parking lots that at most will accommodate 25- 30 vehicles in total. There are 2 deteriorating outhouse buildings with 4 stalls each. Estimated vehicle counts for day use traffic during 2006 totaled 18,600 vehicles that visited the park.

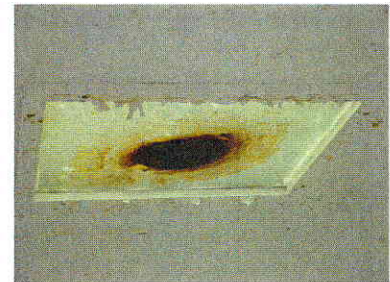
State Parks ability to attract and provide a high quality experience and/or collect camping and day use fees from either local residents or outside visitors will continue to lessen as the conditions and safety of the outhouses, road, campsites and lack of parking are deferred. For out-of-state visitors, Ketchikan is the gateway to Alaska. Our community provides the first impressions of our community and State, but also reflects on the support given to the state park system.

Project Funding Specifics:

A). Outhouses replacements at Settlers Cove SRS: estimated \$30,000 each: Two (2) single units are required in the campground area, and another two (2) single units are required for the day use area. The total required is 4 single cement units. The current outhouses were installed around 1983. The



outhouse vaults appear to be cracked because they do not hold water and likely are leaking septic water into the environment. The roofs, ceilings and walls of the buildings are rotting, and does not hold paint any longer due to the constant dampness. Both outhouse buildings need to be replaced with cement buildings that do not require as much maintenance. (\$120,000 total for 4 single units)



B). Increase day use parking: estimated \$50,000: Limited parking spaces in the lots, forces people to park vehicles along side the road exiting the park. Expand parking lot and add angle in parking on park road with a walkway in front of parking. Frequently vehicles parked on the roadway extend out of the park along North Tongass Hwy. for about a quarter



(Continued on page 42)



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(Continued from page 41)

mile. Road side parking leaves only enough room for single lane traffic. Safety is a major concern in the park, as children dart out from between parallel parked cars into the oncoming traffic lane.



C). Road repair and park facilities upgrade; estimated \$75,000: The park entrance road, the parking lots, and campground loop road need more gravel, grading, resurfacing and better drainage. The park entrance road and parking lots have not had any major improvements since 1985, and require resurfacing. The park road is full of large potholes, and has gullies, that practically become small rivers during wet spells. This erosion of the road bed will eventually lead to total road destabilization. To reduce continuous deterioration and maintenance costs the road should be chip sealed.



Campsites would be redesigned to adequately address issues related to the number of vehicles allowed per site versus camping area. Parking bumpers at campsites need replacing because they are rotting, and have been used as chopping blocks and no longer effective. All of the campsites would be resurfaced and leveled.

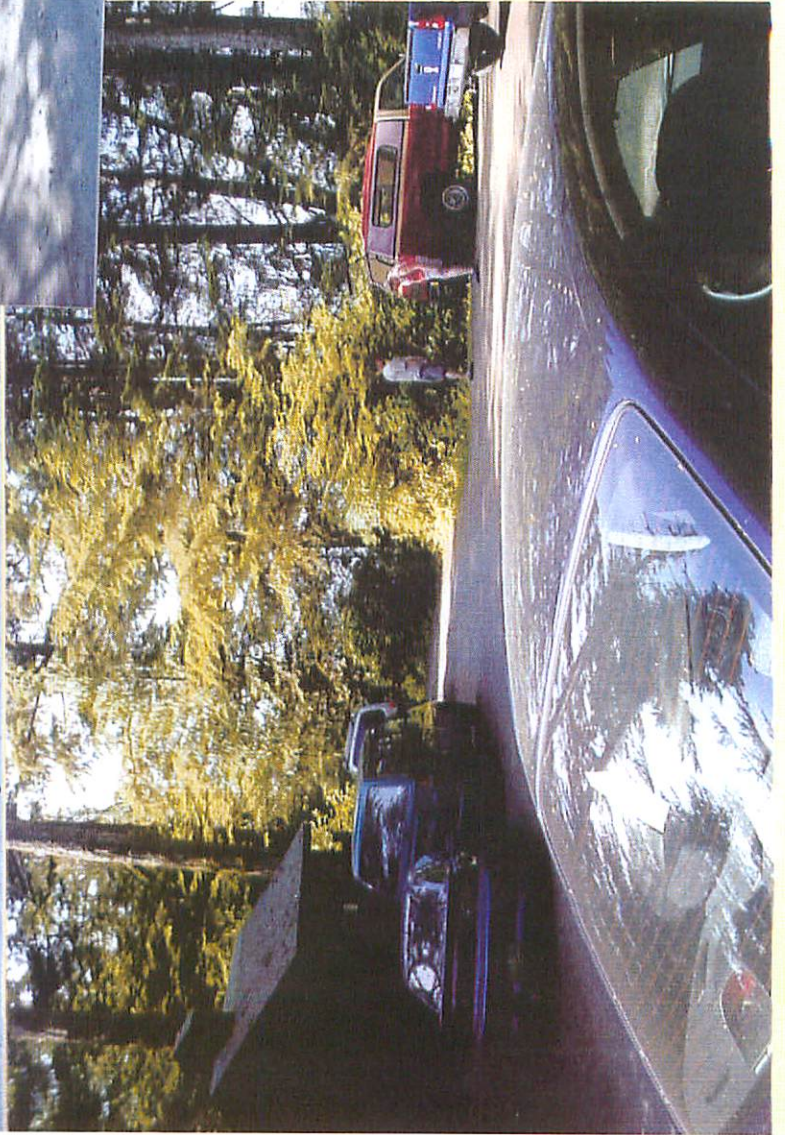
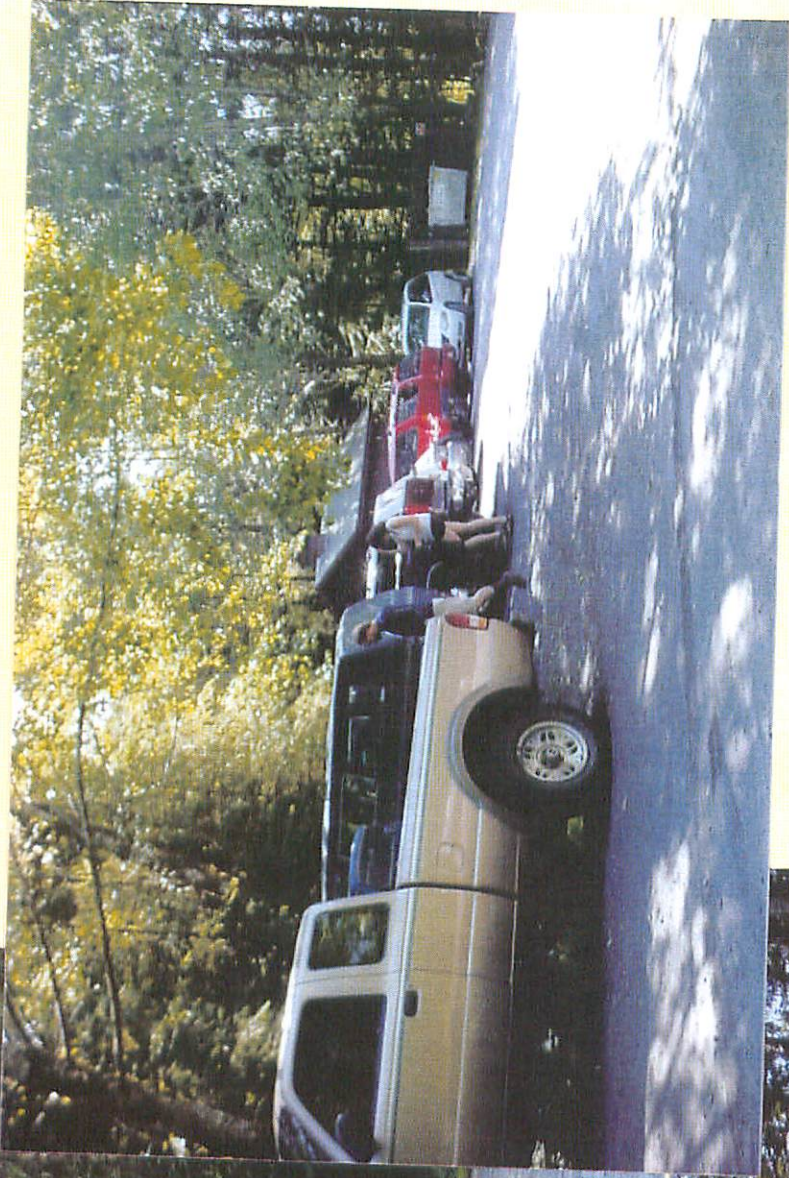
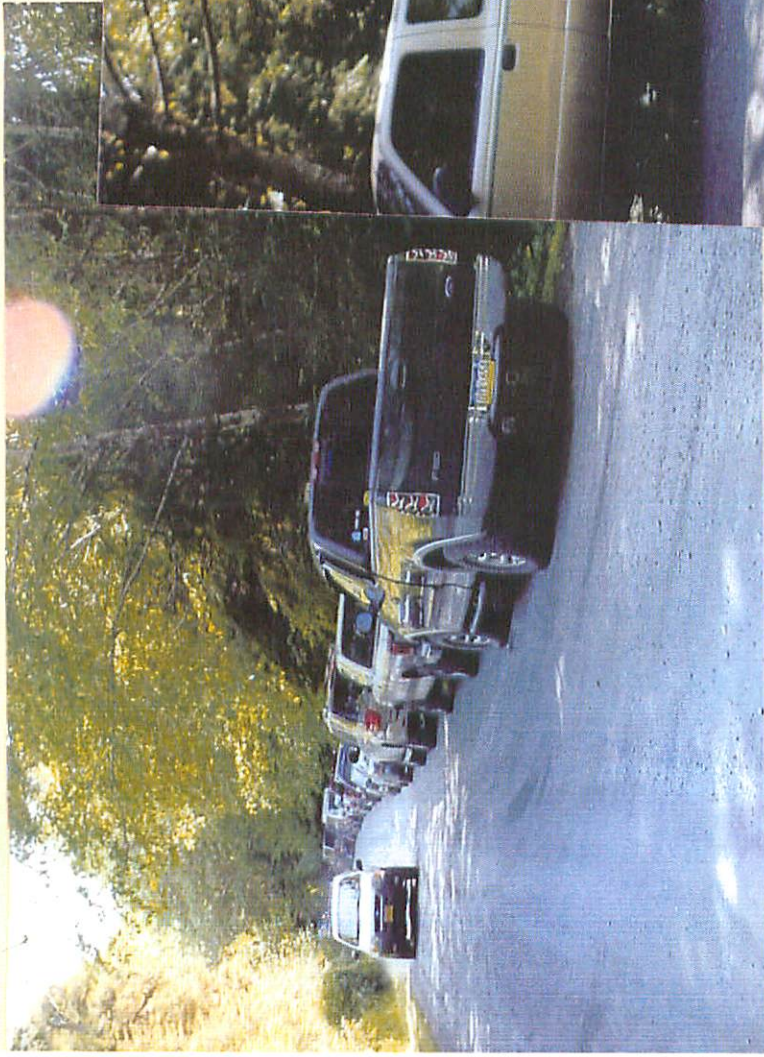
The roof and fascia would be replaced on picnic shelters.

Beach access from the campground would be relocated to provide better traffic flow, and to prevent unauthorized trails and cuts through campsites from being developed.

Interpretive signs and new kiosks would be added. Unique features in this park include the evidence of SE Alaska Native presence, spawning fish stream, extremely large cedar and spruce trees-temperate rainforest, sandy beach-glacial valley, and historic skid log road.

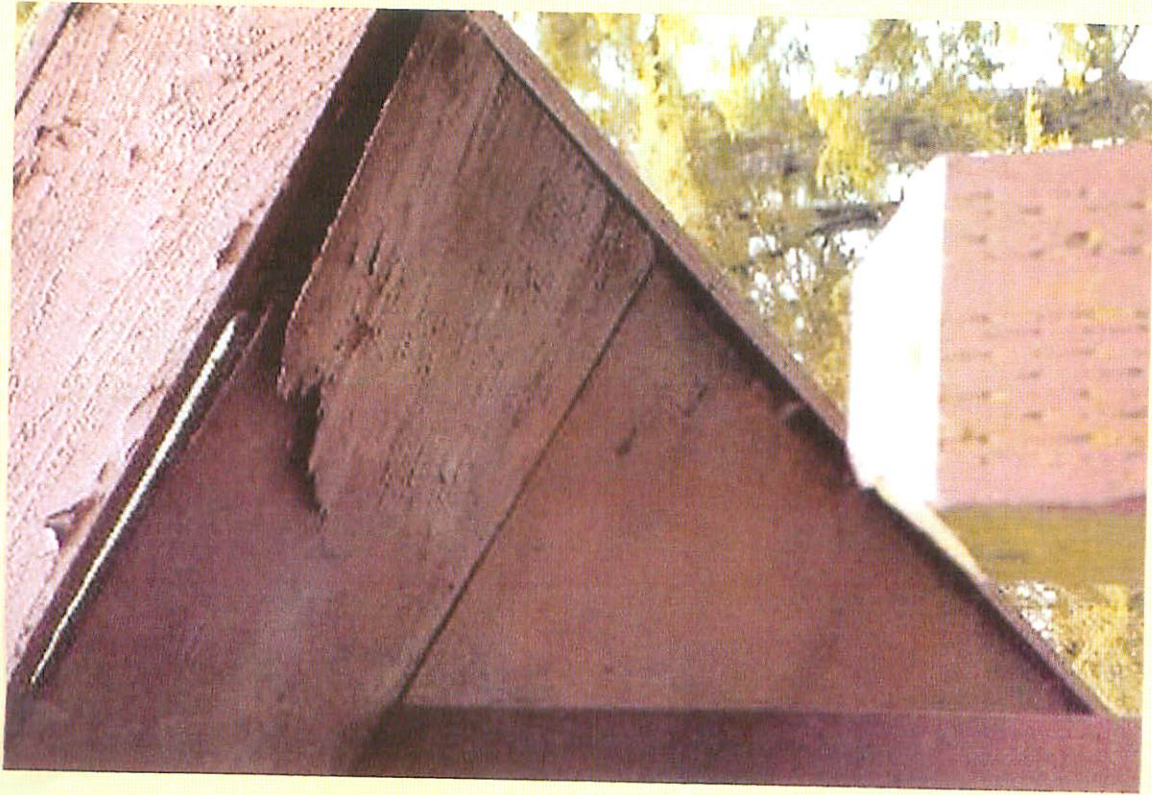
Complete construction of a bathhouse with a water and septic system at volunteer caretaker cabin site for increased volunteer satisfaction, retention, and recruitment.





Settlers Cove
State Rec. Site

— Parking Needs to be
Expanded



Settlers Cove State
Rec. Site

- Needs new outhouses



Settlers Cove State Park
Road Repairs